Remediation Of Sydney Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens Sites Draft Scoping Document

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In Consultation with:
Environment Canada
Transport Canada

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

On May 12, 2004, the Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) on behalf of Canada, and Premier Hamm on behalf of Nova Scotia signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with respect to the proposed remediation of the Sydney Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites (the Project), located in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM), Nova Scotia (see Figure 1.1). Under that agreement, the federal government will contribute up to $280 million, and the Province will contribute $120 million dollars in respect of the project. Figure 1.2 shows the general features of the proposed Project area.

The Project will be carried out employing a combination of proven technologies, including permanent installation of surface and groundwater controls, bio-remediation, removal and destruction of selected polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) contaminated sediments, solidification and stabilization of remaining materials, the construction of permanent engineered caps and restoration of the sites to facilitate future use.

The Project will be subject to an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) and the provisions of the Nova Scotia Environment Act. As such, and in keeping with the MOA, the EA will be coordinated to reflect requirements contained by both pieces of legislation.

The Sydney Tar Ponds Agency (STPA) (the Proponent) will act as the proponent and will be responsible for carrying out the Project. Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) has initiated the federal environmental assessment process pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* in relation to the Project. The likely *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* triggers and the associated Responsible Authorities (RA) include:

- Project funding provided by PWGSC
- A subsection 5(1) approval from Transport Canada pursuant to the *Navigable Waters Protection Act* and the provision of a land lease / land transfer ;
- Authorizations from Environment Canada pursuant to the *Federal Mobile PCB Treatment and Destruction Regulations* (*Canadian Environmental Protection Act*) and a possible Disposal at Sea authorization.

To assist in the environmental assessment process, Health Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada have indicated they will provide expert advice in relation to the project.

1.1 Purpose of the Document

It has been determined that the Project falls under Sections 10 and 32 of the Comprehensive Study List Regulations made pursuant to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. Specifically, Section 10 of the Regulations requires that a Comprehensive Study (CS) be carried out for projects involving "The proposed construction, decommissioning or abandonment of a

facility for the extraction of 200,000 cubic meters per year or more of ground water or an expansion of such a facility that would result in an increase in production capacity of more than 35 per cent.

Further, Section 32 of the Regulations require that a CS be carried out for projects involving "The proposed construction, decommissioning or abandonment of a facility used exclusively for the treatment, incineration, disposal or recycling of hazardous waste, or an expansion of such a facility that would result in an increase in its production capacity of more than 35 per cent".

Section 21 of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act requires as a first step in the CS process that Responsible Authorities carry out public consultation regarding:

- The scope of the Project subject to an Environmental Assessment
- The factors to be considered in the EA
- The scope of these factors
- The ability of the CS to address the issues related to the Project.

The Scoping Document will also to provide a "roadmap" for the EA and provide guidance to the proponents, public and regulatory agencies with respect to the issues to be addressed and the approach to be used in the ultimate determination of potential effects of the Project. This document also provides information on how comments may be submitted in this regard.

The intent of this public consultation exercise is to provide the basis for the RAs in preparing the report and recommendations to the federal Minister of the Environment (MOE) which in turn will assist the MOE in making the final EA track decision in regard to the Project (i.e. to continue with the CS process, or to undertake Mediation or public review by Panel).

1.2 Federal Environmental Assessment Framework

As previously outlined, a determination has been made that the Project is subject to a CS under CEAA. Consequently, the CS track process outlined in Section 21 of CEAA applies to this Project. For the purposes of this document, the term "Environmental Assessment" or "EA" refers to the actual assessment of the interactions between the Project and the environment whereas "Comprehensive Study" or "CS" refers to the legislated process that provides the context for the EA.

Following public consultation on this Scoping Document, PWGSC, Environment Canada and Transport Canada will provide a report to the Minister of the Environment recommending whether the environmental assessment of the project should continue by means of a CS, or

should be referred to a mediator or review panel. This Scoping Document will form part of the report that will be submitted to the Minister of the Environment.

The report from the responsible authority to the Minister of the Environment must include information on:

- the scope of the project, the factors to be considered in the assessment and the scope of those factors;
- public concerns in relation to the project;
- the project's potential to cause adverse environmental effects; and
- the ability of the comprehensive study to address issues relating to the project.

After considering the responsible authorities' report and recommendation, the Minister of the Environment will determine whether to refer the project back to the responsible authorities so that it may continue the comprehensive study process, or refer the project to a mediator or review panel.

If the Minister of the Environment determines that the environmental assessment may continue as a Comprehensive Study, an Environmental Assessment will be undertaken and a Comprehensive Study Report (CSR) will be prepared and submitted to the Minister of the Environment and to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency). During the Comprehensive Study process, the RAs will facilitate the public's continued participation. Participant funding will also be made available for public participation by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (More details on public participation opportunities are found in Section 7.0). Following submission of the Comprehensive Study report, the Agency will also invite the public to comment on the report prior to the Minister of the Environment making his determination. The Minister of the Environment also has the power to request additional information or require that public concerns be addressed before issuing the environmental assessment decision statement. Once the environmental assessment decision statement is issued, the Minister refers the project back to the Responsible Authorities for action.

If the Minister the Environment decides to refer the project to a mediator or a review panel in accordance with section 29 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, the project will no longer be subject to the Comprehensive Study provisions under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. The Minister of the Environment will set the terms of reference for the public review, and appoint the mediator or review panel chairperson and members.

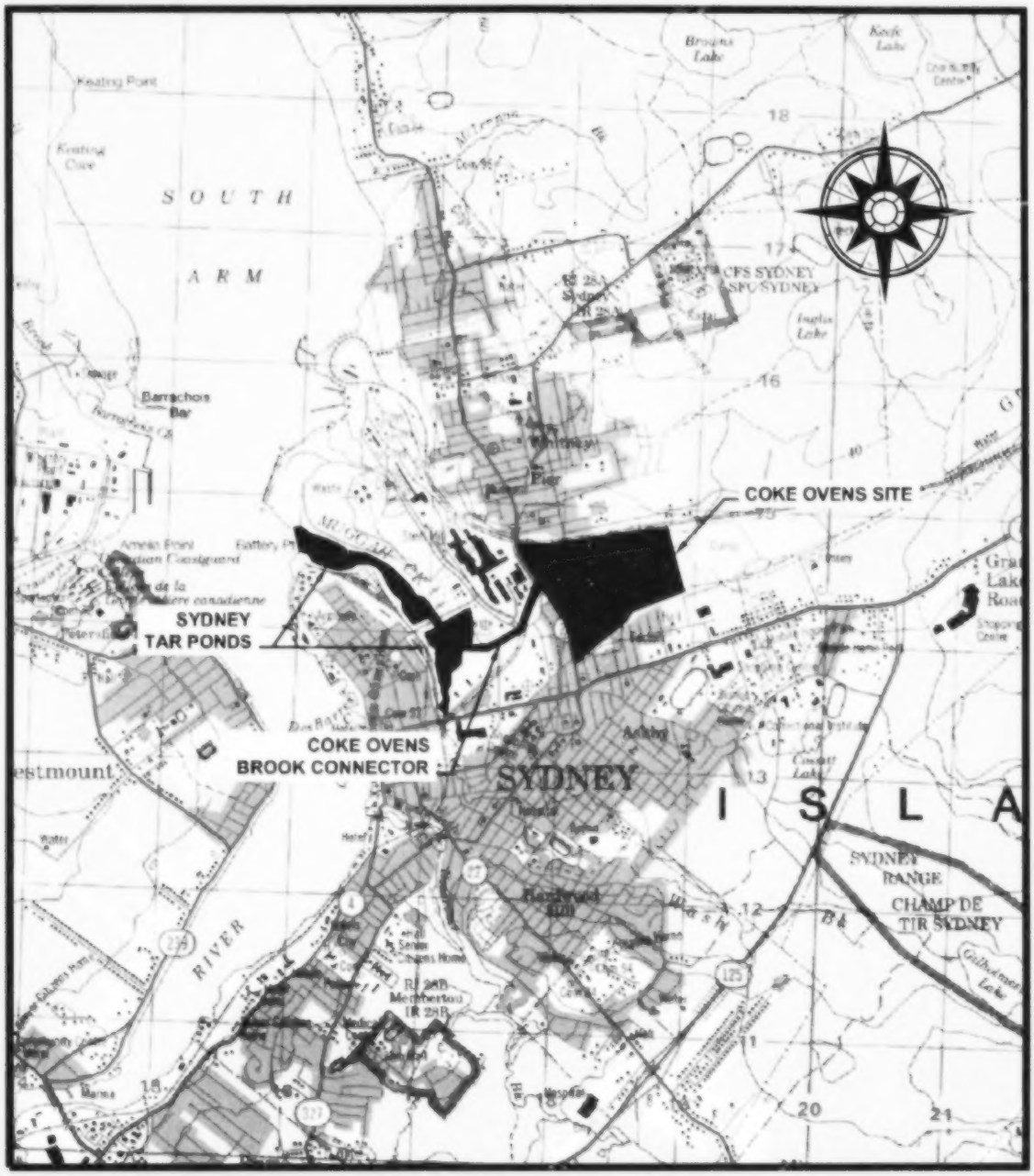

Figure 1.1

General Project Site Location

Scoping Document
Sydney Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens Site

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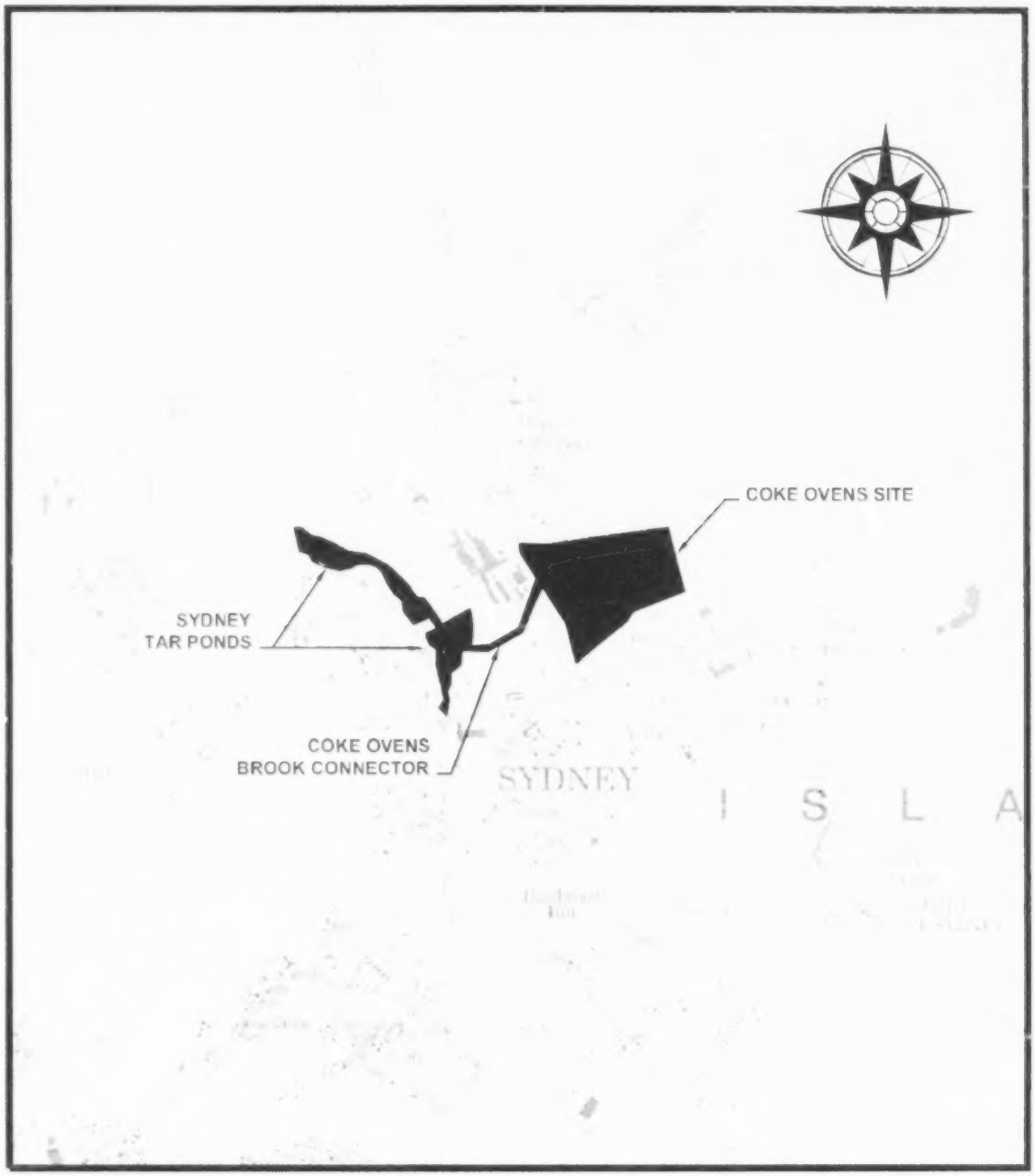

Figure 1.1

General Project Site Location

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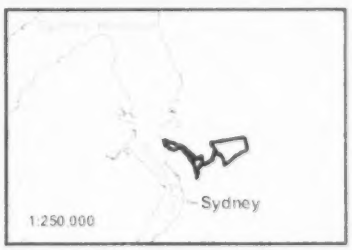

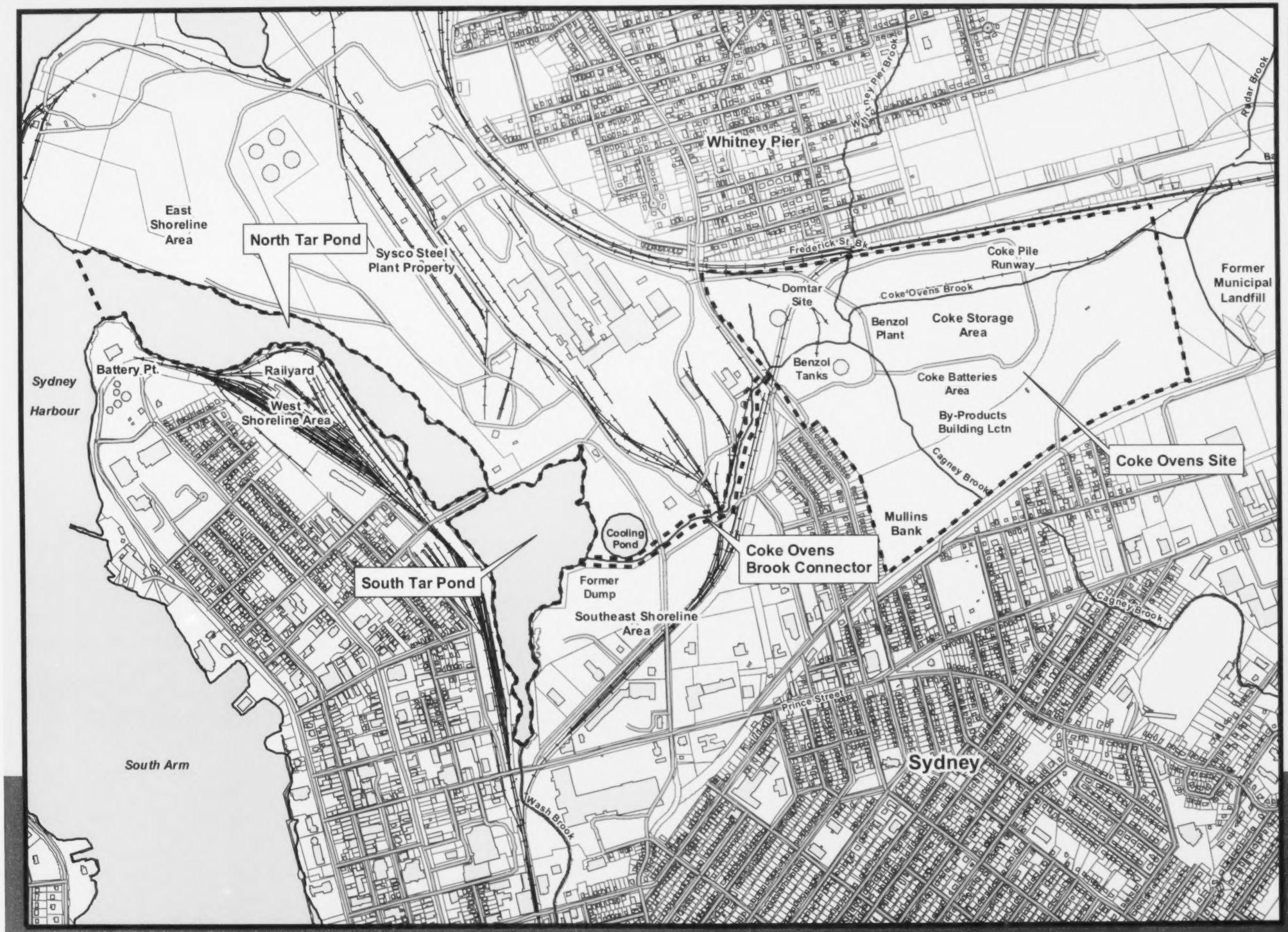

Figure 1.2

Project Site and Associated Features

Scoping Document
Sydney Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens Site

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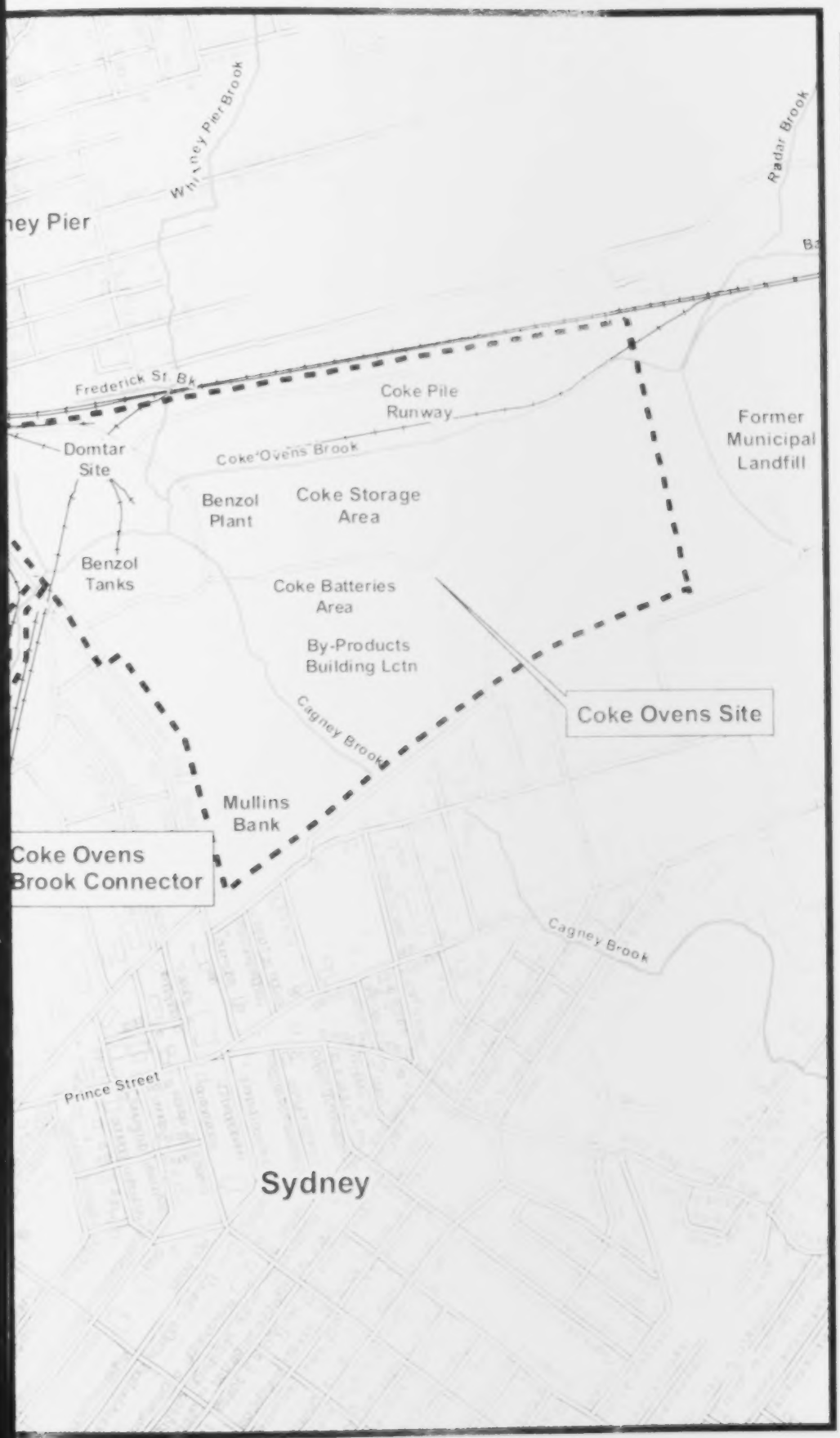

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Figure 1.2

Project Site and Associated Features

Scoping Document
Sydney Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens Site

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2.0 BACKGROUND

Located in the heart of the CBRM, the landscape of the Muggah Creek Watershed and its estuary includes a recently closed steel making operation, the remains of a coke production facility, a rail yard, and a number of active and abandoned waste material dumps.

Many of the production activities associated with the early coal and steel industry used raw materials, or produced wastes that can cause adverse effects for human health and the environment. In general, during these earlier times, little was known of the negative effects of industrial pollution, which was considered to be a necessary by-product of prosperity.

The industrial by-products of the Sydney coke production operations included coal tar, ammonia, sulphur, light hydrocarbons (benzene, xylene, toluene), and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). In the early years of coke production, the contribution of contaminants to the environment was limited through the internal recycling and recovery of these by-products. As the demand for these materials diminished, recycling and recovery operations were no longer economically viable. Consequently, valuable by-products became waste materials and were allowed either to accumulate in unsecured storage areas at the plant site, or were deposited directly onto the soil, or into site watercourses. As a result of these activities, contaminants contained in the raw materials and wastes are now present in the soils and groundwater of the Coke Ovens site, and in the waters and sediments of the Tar Ponds, Coke Ovens Brook, Muggah Creek and Sydney Harbour.

The local environment was also impacted by the by-products of the steel making process, which included huge quantities of the relatively inert waste material known as slag. Over the last century of operation of the steel plant, slag and waste iron were deposited as infill material along the northeastern shoreline of the Muggah Creek estuary and Sydney Harbour. Over time the infilling operations encroached upon the former salt marsh and greatly changed the configuration of the natural shoreline. Other sources of contaminants associated with the coal and steel industry that may have impacted the Tar Ponds include the raw coal and coke product, flue dust from the blast furnaces and ovens, coal tars, sulphur (from the sulphuric acid plant), and miscellaneous waste water effluents.

The steel and coke industry was not the only industry operating in this area of Sydney. There was, for example, a coal tar plant, a cement plant, an asphalt paving company, a fuel gas and oil company, metal processors, and a brick manufacturing company located in or in proximity to this area. In addition, the Muggah Creek Estuary has been the receptor of untreated municipal wastes for a many years. Any or all of these operations may also have contributed to the contaminants in the area's soils, sediments, surface and groundwater, and air.

After nearly 100 years of coal and steel production, environmental contamination of the Muggah Creek watershed in and around the area of former steel and coke making operations is known to be extensive and complex. Government and community efforts towards the remediation of impacted lands and water within the watershed have focused primarily on 4 areas (JAG, 1998):

- the North and South Ponds of the Muggah Creek (the Tar Ponds);
- the former Coke Ovens site;
- the Coke Ovens Brook Connector (a tributary to Muggah Creek); and
- the former municipal landfill.

This area, including the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites, has been referred to as one of the worst contaminated sites in Canada.

2.1 Past Public Consultation and Environmental Investigations

The Project is somewhat unique in that an unprecedented level of consultation has already occurred with the public and government stakeholders over a 7-year period. In 1996, citizens of the Sydney community and the 3 levels of government formed the Joint Action Group for the Environmental Cleanup of the Muggah Creek Watershed (JAG) to seek consensus around acceptable, safe, and technically sound cleanup solutions. Throughout the 7 years residents of the CBRM had numerous opportunities for input into the recommendations made to government concerning remedial options for the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites. Over that period more than 100,000 volunteer hours were spent and 900 public meetings were held to gather public opinions on what the future remedial options should involve.

A number of initiatives have also been carried out in response to public, JAG and government activities. These initiatives include contaminant identification and delineation studies, studies on groundwater and surface water, shoreline delineation studies, human health and ecological risk assessments, a technology demonstration program, and project option evaluations. For a full description of previous studies, readers should refer to Section 1.6 of the Project Description report.

CEAA allows RAs to use any existing documentation to carry out it's EA related responsibilities. In this regard, the abundance of existing information will greatly aid the federal and provincial governments in carrying out the Project related EA.

3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3.1 Purpose of the Project

The purpose of the Project is reduction of human health and ecological risks from the existing contamination. By accomplishing this, it is anticipated that there will be a number of potential benefits to the community from the Project. These benefits may include:

- Enhancement of Community pride and perception
- An improvement in the environmental conditions of Sydney
- Accelerated recovery of Sydney Harbour
- Enhanced recreational opportunities
- Enhanced economic opportunities

Where net benefits of the Project are identified, these will be identified in the EA.

3.2 Project Components

The Project will consist of the various undertakings proposed by the Proponent to be carried out in relation to the physical works and activities of the Project. This will include the specific construction, operation and decommissioning components of the Project. The specific components of the remediation of the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites are summarized in Table 3.1. More detailed information regarding the various components of the Project can be found in the Project Description Report (AMEC 2004).

Table 3.1 Proposed Remediation Program

Activity		Tar Ponds Site	Coke Ovens Site
1.	Control Water	Construct watercourse diversion channels to redirect surface water flowing through the Tar Ponds. This will isolate brooks and streams from contaminated Tar Pond sediments.	Reroute groundwater and surface water flowing through the site to minimize water contact with contaminants.
2.	Remove and Destroy Selected Contaminants	Excavate, dredge, and dewater 120,000 tonnes (92,000 m^3) (*ex situ* volume) of sediment containing PCB material and destroy the dewatered sediment in an approved temporary PCB incinerator that will be constructed offsite in Industrial Cape Breton.	Excavate 1,300 tonnes (1,000 m^3) of PAH contaminated sediment from Coke Ovens Brook and 25,000 tonnes (12,500 m^3) of PAH contaminated material from the in-ground Tar Cell and destroy the excavated material in an approved temporary incinerator that will be constructed offsite in Industrial Cape Breton.

Table 3.1 Proposed Remediation Program

Activity		Tar Ponds Site	Coke Ovens Site
3.	Treat Selected Contaminants In-place	Solidify and stabilize, in-place, the top 1 to 2 m of remaining sediment with a binder (such as Portland cement) using on-site auger or grout injection systems.	Treat, in-place, 253,700 tonnes (128,800 m^3) of the remaining contaminated surface soils using bioremediation. Landfarming of the top 0.5 m of contaminated soil will be used to promote biological breakdown of contaminants in surface soils.
4.	Contain Residual Contaminants	Install a containment system designed to reduce human and ecological exposure to contaminants and to prevent the movement of contaminants off-site. The containment system will consist of low permeability barrier walls installed at various locations around the perimeter of the Tar Ponds and an engineered cap.	Install a containment system designed to reduce human and ecological exposure to contaminants and to prevent the movement of contaminants off-site. The containment system will consist of low permeability vertical walls installed at various locations around the perimeter of the Coke Ovens site and a soil cover designed to facilitate future site use(s).
5.	Site Surface Restoration and Landscaping	Site restoration and landscaping will be compatible with the natural surroundings and future use.	Site restoration and landscaping will be compatible with the natural surroundings and future use.
6.	Long-term Monitoring and Maintenance Plan	Monitor air quality, water quality, sediment, biota, and the performance of the containment system after completion of the project.	Monitor air quality, water quality, soil, and the performance of the containment system after completion of the project.

The remediation of the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites will use technologies that have been demonstrated to be safe and effective on similar contaminated sites. For example, incineration of PCB contaminated materials has been proven to be an economically and technically feasible technology in a number of locations in North America. Two examples of where this technology has been used successfully in Canada for PCB destruction are Smithville Ontario, and Goose Bay Labrador. In addition, measures such as landfarming, stabilization/solidification and "pump-and-treat" of contaminated groundwater are also used as standard practices locally, nationally and internationally.

The most contaminated materials (high levels of PCBs and PAHs) will be removed and safely destroyed using high temperature incineration. The licensed and approved temporary incinerator will be located offsite in industrial Cape Breton. Materials to be incinerated include 120,000 tonnes (92,000 m^3) (*ex situ* volume) of sediment containing PCB materials from the Tar Ponds and 26,300 tonnes (13,500 m^3) of PAH contaminated sediment from the Coke Ovens site (Coke Ovens Brook sediment and Tar Cell contents).

The remaining contaminants will be treated in place. The top 1 to 2 m of remaining sediment in the Tar Ponds will be treated using solidification and stabilization. The top 0.5 m of remaining contaminated soil at selected areas on the Coke Ovens site will be treated using landfarming, a form of bioremediation. Contaminated groundwater at the Coke Ovens site will be removed via pumping and will be treated at a Water Treatment facility. As previously outlined the large volume of this groundwater extraction was the trigger for a Comprehensive Study.

Both sites will then be encapsulated using engineered containment systems designed to prevent human and environmental exposure to contaminants, and to prevent the movement of contaminants off site. Containment at the Tar Ponds will consist of impervious vertical walls installed at various locations around the edges of the Tar Ponds, and an engineered cover consisting of a semi-impervious, reinforced, multi-layered soil barrier designed to limit water penetration and facilitate future site uses. Containment at the Coke Ovens site will include impervious vertical walls installed at various locations around the perimeter of the site, and a covering of soil designed to facilitate future uses of the site.

Final restoration and landscaping of both sites will be compatible with the natural surroundings and future use.

Containment systems require long term monitoring to ensure their continued effectiveness. The remediation plan includes provisions for long term monitoring of air quality, water quality, soil, sediment, biota, and the performance of the containment system, and long-term maintenance of the sites.

3.3 Temporary Incinerator Facilities

Contaminated materials removed from the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites will be transported by rail or road to an off-site facility for treatment using a constructed but temporary PCB incinerator. The preferred location for the incinerator is the Victoria Junction Wash Plant. The top 3 other acceptable sites include Phalen Mine,North Head and CBRM land adjacent to the municipal landfill. Full details regarding the selection process and the criteria used can be found in the report "PCB Destruction Technology Siting Study" in Appendix B of the Project Description Report. The preferred incinerator site (Victoria Junction Wash Plant) and the next highest scoring site (Phalen Mine site) will be further assessed as part of the EA.

3.4 Schedule

It is estimated that remediation of the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites will take 10 years to complete. The general schedule for completing the various components of the cleanup is as follows:

- Engineering Design 2004 to 2006
- Environmental Assessment 2005 to 2006
- Remove and destroy PCB contaminated sediments 2006 to 2010
- Remove and destroy Tar Cell contents & Coke Ovens Brook sediments 2006 to 2010
- Cleanup & Cap Tar Ponds 2006 to 2013
- Cleanup & Cap Coke Ovens 2006 to 2013
- Decommission Facilities 2013

4.0 SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

The objective of the Project is the reduction of human health and ecological risks from the existing contamination. In accordance with subsection 15 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, the Responsible Authorities are required to determine the scope of the project to be examined in the Comprehensive Study.

The Responsible Authorities propose that the scope of the project will consist of the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the physical works and activities summarized in Table 3.1. Detailed information regarding the various components of the Project can be found in the Project Description Report (AMEC 2004).

The EA will consider a study area for the Project that will encompass:

- The boundaries of the Project site, as defined in the Project Description Report, which includes the Tar Ponds (North and South Pond), and the Coke Ovens site;
- The off-site incinerator location;
- The transportation routes from the site to the incinerator facility; and
- The extent of interactions that occur between Project activities and environmental components, as determined from the analysis that is part of the EA (eg. the extent of potential effects on air quality as determined by emissions modelling exercises)

With respect to the temporal scope of the Project (ie.timing), the Project will undertake remediation activities over the proposed 10 year Project schedule outlined in Section 3.4 and in the Project Description Report. In addition, long term monitoring and operation of remediation measures (eg. water treatment facilities) will also be considered within the scope of the Project.

The Project will be carried out in a manner that complies with all applicable federal, provincial and municipal requirements. In addition, environmental principles and protection measures will be developed and implemented as part of the Project

4.1 Factors to be Considered

The Comprehensive Study will consider those factors required and described pursuant to section 16 of CEAA:

- the environmental effects of the project, including the environmental effects of malfunctions or accidents that may occur in connection with the project and any cumulative environmental effects that are likely to result from the project in combination with other projects or activities that have been or will be carried out;
- the significance of the environmental effects referred to above;
- comments from the public that are received in accordance with this Act and the regulations;
- measures that are technically and economically feasible and that would mitigate any significant adverse environmental effects of the project;
- the purpose of the project;
- alternative means of carrying out the project that are technically and economically feasible and the environmental effects of any such alternative means;
- the need for, and the requirements of, any follow-up program in respect of the project; and,
- the capacity of renewable resources that are likely to be significantly affected by the project to meet the needs of the present and those of the future.

In accordance with subsection 16(1)(e) of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, the comprehensive study will also include a consideration of the additional following matters:

- need for the project, and
- alternatives to the project.

The term "alternatives to the project" is defined as functionally different ways to meet the project need and achieve the project purpose, and serve to validate that the preferred technologies constitute a reasonable approach to meeting the project's need and purpose. "Alternative means" are defined as the various ways, that are technically and economically feasible, that the project can be implemented or carried out. This will include alternative locations, routes and methods of development, implementation and mitigation of the technologies identified for the remediation. The Agency's October 1998 Operational Policy Statement addressing "Need for", "Purpose of" "Alternatives to" and "Alternative Means" under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, provides additional definition and general guidance on when and how these factors shall be considered.

4.2 Scope of Factors to be Considered

The Comprehensive Study will address the factors listed above and document any issues and concerns that may be identified by the Proponent through consultation with regulatory agencies, stakeholders, public and First Nations.

The Valued Environmental Component (VEC) approach will be used as part of the EA to focus the analysis (see additional description of this process in Section 5.0). A definition of each VEC identified for the purposes of the EA, and the rationale for its selection, will be provided.

The environmental assessment will consider the potential effects of the proposed project within spatial and temporal boundaries encompassing the periods and areas during and within which the project may potentially interact with, and have an effect on components of the environment. These boundaries may vary with each VEC and the factors considered and shall reflect a consideration of:

- The proposed scheduling of activities
- The natural variation of each VEC
- Interrelationship/interactions between and within VECs
- The time required for recovery from an effect, and/or return to a "pre-effect" condition, including the estimated proportion, level or amount of recovery
- The area within which a VEC functions and within which a Project effect may be observed
- Assessment of the impacts of potential accidental events and malfunctions of Project components
- The assessment of cumulative environmental effects that are likely to occur from the Project and other projects or activities that have been or will be carried out.

4.3 Monitoring and Follow-Up

As per the requirements under CEAA, monitoring and follow-up programs need to be designed and implemented as part of the Project. The specifics of these programs will be determined as part of the EA, but will include components related to air, surface water, groundwater, soil/sediments and biota.

These monitoring and follow-up programs are intended to provide data to decision makers for immediate feed-back on the impact of remedial activities and if required, to quickly rectify and modify the program or discontinue activities. In the long-term, monitoring will be used to assess the sustainability of the remedial activities and the impact of land use activities on the surrounding environment.

The monitoring and follow-up programs recommended as part of the EA will build upon the existing monitoring programs that currently exist as part of the Project. These current monitoring programs include ambient air quality monitoring, and surface water monitoring.

4.4 Issues to be Assessed

It has been widely accepted by the public in the community of Sydney and Industrial Cape Breton, and all three levels of government, the current status of the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites is unacceptable. This status takes into account a number of different perspectives,

including human health and safety, impacts on the environment, and impacts on the social and economic nature of Sydney. As a result, the Project Proponent is proposing the Project to cleanup these sites and lower the risk of exposure of humans and the environment to the existing contaminants.

Despite the expected overall environmental, health and socio-economic benefits from carrying out the Project, the Project needs to be assessed to ensure that the activities and facilities associated with the remediation are implemented in manner that will not create additional significant adverse environmental effects. The two overall issues that present the most concern in this regard, include potential impacts from the physical works themselves, and the potential exposure of additional receptors to the existing toxic materials.

The environmental effects of the Project and the health and socio-economic issues related to these effects need to be identified in order to complete the assessment of the Project. This Draft Scoping Document provides an initial identification of these issues.

The key issues that may be associated with the Project were identified through:

- A review of the existing baseline information and scientific and technical studies for the Project area,
- Review of issues associated with previous similar remediation projects,
- Preliminary discussions with selected regulatory and government agencies
- Project related workshops
- Past community consultation efforts
- Professional experience of the EA team for remediation projects that involve similar construction related activities and incinerator facilities

As Project-specific EA consultation with the community, stakeholder groups, First Nations, and government and regulatory agencies has not yet been undertaken, the potential issues identified in this section are , of necessity, general in nature. These issues will be further refined, through future public and stakeholder consultation, and input from resource managers and government agencies, to produce a detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) that will provide additional guidance for conducting the EA (see Section 7.2). Table 4.1 provides an overview of the preliminary environmental issues that have been identified for the Project and will require further treatment over the course of the EA.

Table 4.1 Preliminary Env

Environmental Elements	Potential Environmental Issues	
Physical and Chemical Environment	Air Quality – as defined by regulations, guidelines, or Project-specific objectives	• Se • Pla • Sta • Co • Em • Inc • Un • Wa • Re • Bio • Tra • Am • Gr • Cu
	Acoustic Environment – the perception at potential receptors of an unacceptable increase in ambient noise conditions	• Pr
	Climate	• Gr
	Oceanography – all seasons	• Po • Ch
	Surface Water/Groundwater Quality and Quantity - as defined by regulations, guidelines, or Project-specific objectives	• Wa • Ex • De • St • Inc • Sp • En
	Soil Quality – defined as the preservation of existing soil capabilities for future use	• De • St • Inc • Sp • En • Or
	Freshwater and Marine Water Quality - as defined by regulations, guidelines, or Project-specific objectives	• W • De • St • Re • In • Sp • En • Co • Co
	Freshwater and Marine Sediment Quality - as defined by regulations, guidelines, or Project-specific objectives	• W • D • St • In • S • E • M • C • C

ɔnmental Issues

Preliminary Identification of Project Activities/Potential Issues
nent removal and materials handling (dust and vapours) ement of cover materials at Coke Ovens and cap at Tar Ponds lization – dust from handling cement products truction equipment and traffic emissions sions from ponds during dewatering (particulate, PAHs, and VOCs) erator emissions (stack and fugitive, PAHs, particulate, metals, SO_2, NO_x, dioxins, furans, PCBs and VOCs) ntrolled releases (spills) r Treatment – sewage odour may still remain oval of Tar Cell – odours emediation of soils - odours sport of contaminated materials (PAHs, VOCs, PCBs, particulate) ient Air and Waste Treatment System Monitoring n House Gas emissions ulative emissions (CBRM Incinerator & SYSCO Remediation/Demolition)
ect Related Noise
n House Gas emissions
ntial changes to hydrodynamics of Sydney Harbour nges in shoreline erosion and accretion patterns
tewater (sanitary and treated water) discharges action of contaminated groundwater for treatment purposes atering of ponds / sludges mwater runoff from site erator site runoff and wastewater (brine) s sion
vatering of ponds / sludges mwater runoff from site nerator site particulates, runoff and wastewater (brine) s sion or near-site construction activities
stewater (sanitary and treated water) discharges vatering of ponds / sludges mwater runoff from site suspension of contaminated sediments nerator site particulates, runoff and wastewater (brine) s sion trolling groundwater movement through impacted sediments. trol and treatment of groundwater prior to leaving the Coke Ovens Site
stewater (sanitary and treated water) discharges vatering of ponds / sludges rmwater runoff from site nerator site, particulates, runoff and wastewater (brine) ls sion nitoring trolling groundwater movement through impacted sediments. trol and treatment of groundwater prior to leaving the Coke Ovens Site

Environmental Elements	Potential Environmental Issues	
	Effects of the Environment on the Project	• Ice • Ge • Me • Oc • Hy
	Hydrology - surficial water characteristics	• Co • Re • Fin
	Archaeology and Heritage Resources	• Ero • Dis
Biological Environment	Fish – toxicology related effects (eg, lethal, and sublethal effects) on fish Fish Habitat – physical alteration or displacement of existing habitat	• Ru • Wa • Sp • Un • Los
	Vegetation - toxicology related effects (eg, lethal, and sublethal effects) on existing vegetation Habitat – physical alteration or displacement of existing flora habitat	• Em • Imp
	Wildlife - toxicology related effects (eg, lethal, and sublethal effects) on resident wildlife species Wildlife Habitat (including migratory birds) - physical alteration or displacement of existing wildlife habitat	• Em • Ha • Sp • Imp
	Species at Risk - toxicology related effects (eg, lethal, and sublethal effects) on species at risk in the study area Species at Risk Habitat – physical alteration or displacement of existing habitat	• Em • Ha • Sp • Im
	Wetlands – Loss of wetland function due to chemical or physical effects on local wetlands	• Ru • Sp • Im
Human Health	Health Services Personal health, health practices and coping skills Healthy Child Development	• He • Inc • En • Pr • Oc • Lig • Sp • Pr • Tr • He • Re • W
Socio-Economics	Renewable resources - effect of Project on renewable resources	• Ut • Us • Lo
	Employment and working conditions, income and social status	• Pu • Sh • Ne • He • Sh

Preliminary Identification of Project Activities/Potential Issues
onditions gy rological and Climate Conditions nographic Conditions geological Conditions
truction related activities and required infrastructure uting of watercourses site restoration
on rbance of unknown artifacts and potential loss of archaeological information
ff from site e water discharge ntrolled release of sediment laden water - Impact on habitat during remediation operations of control and/or treatment of groundwater at the Coke Ovens Site - Impact on habitat during remediation operations
sions ct on habitat during waste treatment operations
sions tat removal for incinerator site ; ct on habitat during waste treatment operations
ssions tat removal for incinerator site ; ct on habitat during waste treatment operations
off from site ; ct on habitat during waste treatment operations
th services capacity eased/decreased stress levels as a result of the remediation ssions from facilities and activities (including dist generation) ect related traffic (noise and emissions) urs generated from on-site activities t pollution from night-time operations s, accidents, malfunctions ect related noise sportation of contaminated materials th service capacity uce and/or eliminate the risk of exposure to contamination ker exposure to contamination – Lack of appropriate training
zation of resources to complete Project of resources by increased level of workers in the area g term resource requirements of the Project
ic and worker safety rt-term and long term increase related to increased direct and indirect employment short term opportunities lth impacts associated with increased employment and increased incomes rt term displacement from existing business

Environmental Elements	Potential Environmental Issues	
		• Proje • Requ • Phys • Tran • Muni • Suffi
	Transportation	• Tran • Addi • Pote
	Social environments, social support networks	• Pote • Sens
	Housing	• Hous
	Culture	• Pote • Proj • Proj
	Traditional Use – potential impact on traditional resources utilized by First Nations	• Proj • Proj

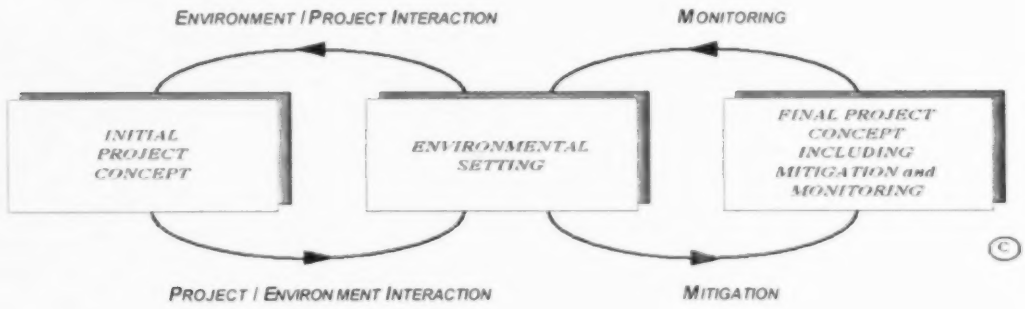
Preliminary Identification of Project Activities/Potential Issues
related restrictions on adjacent land use (agriculture, commercial, recreational, toursim, etc.) ement for fill material such as gravel, clay, etc. (increased short term demand) al Infrastructure – long term increased value and demand ortation requirements of the Project (road, rail, mass, air, marine) al infrastructure requirements (water, roads, landfill) nt training for local labour supply – short term
ortation of contaminated materials to the incinerator site nal truck traffic related to remediation activities al effects on existing traffic patterns from remediation activities
al demographic shift of community, social networks may change
g (increased demand – short term; increased property values – long term)
ial demographic shift t-related restrictions on the use of lands for harvesting or gathering of resources t-related impacts on resources used by First Nations
t related restrictions on use of lands for harvesting or gathering of resources t related impacts on resources used by First Nations

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The focus of the EA will be to identify the interactions (i.e. environmental effects) resulting from the Project on the existing environment, and assess the potential impacts of these interactions. Where adverse impacts are identified in the EA, mitigation will be designed to minimize potential effects on the environment and human health and safety.

This iterative approach to EA results in a well-designed project that meets not only project objectives, but also meets societal and regulatory objectives for sustainable development.

The overall approach to the EA for this Project is depicted simply in the three-box model shown below.



As part of the assessment, the EA will also consider the potential effects of the environment on the Project. Potential Project effects will be identified and appropriate design modifications will be undertaken to minimize those effects.

To achieve the EA objectives outlined above, the approach to the EA will involve an iterative process, involving many process elements. Each of these elements will include ongoing consultative efforts that are tailored to the specific objectives of each stage of the process. These elements of the EA process are outlined below.

Assembling Environmental Baseline Information

An analysis of baseline environmental data (i.e., both biophysical and socio-economic) will be conducted in the context of the proposed Project. This will include a detailed review of recent studies conducted on the Project site to determine the most effective means of clean up.

A description of existing environmental conditions within the Project study area will be prepared to support the assessment of potential effects of various Project activities on the environment and the potential impacts of the environment on the Project.

An extensive amount of information has been collected for the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites. Conversely, there may be data gaps for specific components of the Project. Any relevant information that has been previously collected will be used during the conduct of the EA. Where data gaps exist, baseline studies will be conducted to provide additional information.

Environmental Issues Identification

Specific environmental concerns of public, stakeholders, government agencies and First nations will be identified through a detailed consultation program (see Section 7.0). As a result of this consultative effort, consideration of environmental baseline conditions, and the professional experience of the Project Team, issues or Environmental, Health and Safety, and Socio-Economic Components of Concern (ECCs) relevant to the Project will be identified. ECCs will also be identified through stakeholder consultation, a review of applicable regulations, and input from resource managers and government agencies.

Pathways or linkages between the ECCs/issues and Project activities will be identified. Where no pathways exist, these issues will be deemed not relevant to the Project and, therefore, will no longer be part of the analysis.

Identification of Valued Environmental Components (Biophysical & Socio-Economic)

Where a clear linkage or pathway between ECCs and Project activities is identified, and potential effects are a concern, the ECCs will become the Valued Environmental Components (VECs) upon which the Assessment will focus. According to Beanlands and Duinker (1983), VECs are determined, in part, on the basis of perceived public concerns related to social, cultural, economic, or aesthetic values, and in part, on the basis of scientific and professional knowledge.

A definition of each VEC will be developed, including its scope (spatial and temporal boundaries). Potential effects relative to each VEC will be identified.

Effects of the Environment on the Project

An additional component that needs to be addressed in the EA is the effect of the environment on the Project. While this is typically taken into consideration at the engineering design stage, it is important to review all potential interactions to ensure that they have been adequately addressed in the design. These types of considerations would include features such as frost, seasonal temperature extremes, tide and wave heights, and flooding.

A more recent consideration that has gained relevancy for long-life projects is the potential change in the environment due to climate change. Regional climate modelling has demonstrated that projects with longer life spans may experience different environmental conditions than exist today. These would include changes in seasonal temperature variations, more extreme weather patterns (hurricanes, flooding), and increased sea levels and storm surges. This potential for future change must be considered at the design stage for long-life projects.

Temporal and Spatial Boundaries

The effect of a specific project activity on a VEC may differ in both space and time from the effect of any other activity. Certain project activities may have long-term consequences; others will be of short duration. Therefore, an important aspect of the EA process is the determination of VEC boundaries. Spatial boundaries for assessing potential effects will typically be established by determining the relevant spatial extent of an effect from all activities or structures that will be required for the Project. Temporal boundaries for the EA will be specific to the issue or VEC being considered may be localized (eg. site footprint) or may be have a wider influence (eg. airshed). Different temporal boundaries may be used for specific subject areas and for different issues within a subject area, to reflect:

- The nature and duration of the effect;
- The characteristics of the indicator; and
- The types of actions and projects that will need to be considered within the cumulative effects assessment.

Temporal and spatial study boundaries will be considered for the pre-construction/construction, operation, and decommissioning and abandonment phases of the Project. Spatial and temporal boundaries will be developed using traditional knowledge, scientific and technical information, input from the public, and professional experience of the EA team.

Analysis of Environmental Interactions

When all available information is assembled and VECs and interactions/linkages are identified, various analyses will be conducted to characterize or quantify these interactions. This analysis will assist in the assessment of the effects of the Project.

The types of analyses that will be employed will be dependant on the final VECs selected. In addition, the scope and methodology of these analyses will be determined in consultation with appropriate regulatory agencies. The types of analysis that may be undertaken as part of the EA include:

- Air dispersion modelling –Will be undertaken for Project components that are shown to have potential effects related to emissions. These activities may include bioremediation activities, excavation of contaminated materials and incineration.

- Human Health Risk Assessment – Will be undertaken for Project components that are likely to be potential contaminant pathways for human receptors.

- Ecological Risk Assessment - Will be undertaken for Project components that are likely to be potential contaminant pathways for sensitive ecological receptors.

- Biophysical surveys – Where data gaps occur for natural environment components, baseline surveys will be conducted to gather additional data.

- Economic modelling – To complete the socio-economic analysis, economic modelling will be completed to evaluate the economic effects of the Project on the community of Sydney.

Assessment of Impacts/Effects

The potential impacts of the relevant Project components (e.g., groundwater and surface water control, contaminant removal and/or treatment, residual contaminant containment, etc) activities will be assessed for each VEC. In addition potential effects of malfunctions and accidents, cumulative effects, and the potential effects of the environment on the Project will be assessed.

As defined under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, "environmental effect" means, with respect to a project:

a) any change that the project may cause in the environment, including any change it may cause to a listed wildlife species, its critical habitat or the residences of individuals of that species, as those terms are defined in subsection 2(1) of the Species at Risk Act
b) any effect of any change referred to in paragraph (a) on
i) health and socio-economic conditions
ii) physical and cultural heritage
iii) the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by aboriginal persons, or
iv) any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance, or
c) any change to the project that may be caused by the environment

Environmental effects will be categorized in terms of: whether they are adverse (negative) or positive, and, if adverse, their significance and, if significant, their likelihood. Predictions of potential environmental effects will be based on a combination of objective (measurable) and subjective (deduced) experience based on professional judgment and evaluation.

Determination of Significance

The assessment or determination of the significance of potential effects will be based on the framework/criteria provided in CEAA, with consideration of other relevant federal and provincial regulatory requirements.

The Responsible Authority's Guide (1994) summarizes the requirements of CEAA, which has been successfully applied to similar projects in the past, and has been widely accepted by government and regulatory agencies within Canada, as the standard for the completion of EAs. The Reference Guide entitled "Determining Whether A Project Is Likely To Cause Significant Adverse Environmental Effects" included in the Responsible Authority's Guide will be used as the basis for determining the significance of identified potential effects.

The process for determining environmental effects consists of the following steps:

- determine whether the environmental effect is adverse;
- determine whether the adverse environmental effect is significant or, in other words, determine the effect rating; and
- determine whether the significant environmental effect is likely.

The key words in this section are "adverse," "significant," and "likely". Although these terms are not directly defined, the Agency provides criteria to facilitate interpretation. These criteria are outlined in Table 5.1 below.

Table 5.1 Criteria To Be Considered In The Assessment Of Potential Environmental Effects

Key Terms	Criteria
Adverse	loss of species of special status (*i.e.*, species at risk); reductions in species diversity; loss of critical/productive habitat; transformation of natural landscapes; toxic effects on human health; reductions in the capacity of renewable resources to meet the needs of present and future generations; loss of current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by Aboriginal persons; and foreclosure of future resource use or production.
Significant	magnitude; geographic extent; duration and frequency; reversibility; and ecological context.
Likely	probability of occurrence; and scientific uncertainty.

Source: CEAA, The Responsible Authority's Guide (1994).

For the purposes of the EA, an effect will be defined as the change effected on a VEC(s) as a result of Project activities. A Project induced change may affect specific groups, populations, or species, resulting in modification of the VEC(s) in terms of an increase or decrease in its nature (characteristics), abundance, or distribution. Effects will be categorized as either negative (adverse) or positive. An adverse effect may be significant or non-significant; this rating will be determined taking into account the defined assessment criteria, as discussed above.

Mitigation

Mitigation is defined as the elimination, reduction or control of the adverse environmental effects of the project, and may include restitution for any damage to the environment caused by such effects through replacement, restoration, compensation or any other means.

Mitigation measures will be consistent with the requirements of all relevant legislation, regulations, guidelines, policies, management plans, specifications, and best management practices, where practical. Mitigation will be considered in a hierarchical manner with impact avoidance measures identified first, reduction measures second and compensation last.

Mitigation measures will be outlined for all VECs within the physical, biological and socio-economic environment. All proposed components of mitigation will be described by phase, timing and duration. Information will be provided on methods, equipment, procedures, and policies associated with the proposed mitigation or restitution. Standard management strategies will be identified and established where none exist. Examples of typical mitigation measures that have been applied to previous cleanup projects are provided in Section 6.0.

Residual Effects

Residual effects include the adverse effects that may remain at each stage of the project after proposed mitigation or enhancement measures are implemented, including emergency response and contingency plans. The EA will contain sufficient information to enable the reviewers to understand and review the significance of Project effects. The terms used to describe the level of significance will be defined in the EA. The following criteria will be used to assess the significance of residual effects:

- magnitude;
- geographic extent;
- timing, duration and frequency;
- degree to which effects are reversible or can be mitigated;
- ecological and social/cultural context;
- probability of occurrence;
- the capacity of renewable and non-renewable resources (including but not limited to recreational areas) to meet the needs of the present and those of the future; and
- standards, guidelines or objectives.

The determination of significance and likelihood of residual environmental effects are at the core of the decision about the Project. It will influence whether a Responsible Authority can take a course of action with respect to the Project. For this reason, the EA will include clear statements of whether the adverse environmental effects, taking into account any mitigation measures, are significant, not significant or uncertain.

In the EA, the methods used to determine significance will be clearly documented and the results of that determination will be easily linked to these methods. These methods will include not only an analysis of the results and professional judgment, but also consultations with appropriate experts, and, where appropriate, members of the public. This component of the EA will document the assumptions that entered into the determination of significance and the uncertainty that surrounds predictions made in the EA. If those results or predictions are later found to be incorrect, the determination of significance may no longer apply. The EA will convey the level of confidence associated with the predictions since this reflects upon the validity of the significance determination.

In addition to the assessment of adverse effects, a framework will be developed within the EA that will provide an assessment of the positive effects resulting from the Project. There is currently no guideline related to the assessment of positive effects, and for this Project and its objectives related to environmental improvement, this type of assessment will be conducted.

Cumulative Impact Assessment

It is a requirement that all CEAA regulated environmental assessments include a cumulative effects assessment of the proposed Project and other current or planned projects in the area. It has been recognized that in some instances, that impacts on the environment from multiple projects or activities may act cumulatively. These cumulative impacts may be more significant than the residual impacts from each of the individual projects, and assessment of this potential must be undertaken. Intra-project cumulative impacts will also be evaluated to determine if the various Project activities also have the potential to "stack up" and create internal cumulative effects (eg. dust from multiple activities).

The EA will identify and assess the cumulative adverse environmental effects of the project in combination with other past, present or reasonably foreseeable projects and/or activities within the study area. The assessment of cumulative effects will be based on previous cumulative effect assessment experience, and knowledge of recent projects. In addition, the cumulative effects assessment will consider current assessment methodologies recommended by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. The objective of the cumulative effects assessment will be to consider the nature of potential cumulative effects resulting from the relationship between Project-related effects and those of other activities, including general land uses, and identified past, present, and likely future projects.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATIVE MEASURES

Another crucial component of this public consultation exercise is to provide the public with an understanding of the likelihood of significant adverse impacts occurring in relation to the Project. In this regard, Project activities that are being proposed are relatively standard procedures that are employed for the cleanup of contaminated sites all over North America. As a result, technically and economically feasible mitigation measures have been developed for other cleanup projects and will also be applicable in large part to the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens Cleanup Project. The following table outlines some the typical mitigation measures that have been proven and applied to other cleanup projects.

Table 6.1 Typical Mitigation Measures for Other Cleanup Projects

Potential Issue	Typical Mitigation Procedures
Erosion and site runoff	• Implement erosion and sedimentation controls as outlined in the "Nova Scotia Erosion and Sediment Control" handbook (1988).
Suspension of sediments	• Install cofferdams or turbidity curtains • Divert surface waters
Worker exposure	• Develop a detailed worker Health and Safety plan that outlines safe handling procedures for contaminated materials • Develop worker decontamination procedures.
Dust	• Conduct dust monitoring • Suspend operations • Apply dust suppression when and where required
Air emissions	• Conduct air dispersion modelling and determine zones of influence • Monitor for levels of contaminants as determined in the EA • Develop response measures to respond to air quality concerns, such as shutdown of operations or implementation of additional control measures

As well, an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) has been developed for the Project (Appendix C, Project Description Report), which outlines general requirements for environmental protection to be implemented as part of the Project. It includes general principles

and procedures to be applied to the design, construction, operations, and abandonment of the Project.

In addition to the procedures outlined in the EMP, potential Project related effects may be reduced by ensuring that facilities, and activities are either located in areas, or conducted in a manner, to avoid impacts to the physical or biological environment. Initiatives that can be or have already been conducted to accomplish this, include:

- Siting facilities away from sensitive receptors such as watercourses, reservoirs, and sensitive habitats
- Sharing access routes where practical
- Use existing facilities, and developed areas, where practical
- Locating stockpile and waste storage areas away from sensitive receptors such as watercourses
- Accommodate adjacent land use, and activities in the Project design
- Timing specific activities to minimize potential effects on the local community, where practical
- Use erosion control measures to protect offsite resources
- Develop specific operating guidelines and contingency/response plans for Project personnel
- Develop detailed monitoring plans to provide indicators of the success or failure of the mitigation measures
- Selection of highly effective and proven technologies

7.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/CONSULTATION

Public awareness and participation are key requirements of an EA. There are two aspects to public consultation: public disclosure and public participation. Public disclosure provides information about the project so that those affected by the project can make informed decisions. Public consultation allows input into the project on the part of those with an interest in it. The more effectual the public disclosure, the more informed and beneficial the public participation.

A basic premise of all consultation associated with large-scale projects is that the success of a project is predicated on meaningful consultation. There needs to be a means for the public and stakeholders to provide information and input to the Project, to ensure that all factors have been included in the consideration of all the environmental issues. Consultation with the public, stakeholders and Aboriginal Community is an indispensable element of the regulatory process. In addition to being a key component of community acceptance, public consultation is an important requirement both for the preparation of the EA, and a regulatory requirement under CEAA.

It is important that all parties, as well as governments who are responsible for the regulatory framework, enter into project discussions early on in the planning stages in order to reach mutually beneficial goals and objectives. This will help to:

- Improve understanding of the potential impacts of the proposed project
- Identify alternative sites or designs, and mitigation measures, to improve environmental and social acceptability
- Clarify values and "trade-offs" associated with the different alternatives
- Identify contentious issues
- Assist with EA issues scoping
- Establish transparent procedures for furthering the development of the proposed project
- Create accountability and a sense of local ownership during project implementation

To date there has been a high level of both public disclosure and consultation with respect to the issues associated with the Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens sites (see Section 2.1). The results of this consultative effort will also be utilized in the preparation of the EA.

7.1 Public Participation Opportunities

To facilitate public participation in Comprehensive Studies, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency provides and administers a Participant Funding Program. Information about this program is provided on the Agency's website at www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca. Public advertisements will be provided for further information regarding how the public can participate in this program.

As previously outlined, comments are being sought on this document to prepare a report to the Minister of the Environment, and if the Comprehensive Study process continues, to finalize the scope of the assessment. This public consultation effort also reflects recognition of the significant contribution made to date by the residents of CBRM over the course of the development of the Project Description. It is but the first step in the undertaking of an EA process which is intended to be transparent and open with respect to public involvement throughout it's course.

Public comments on this document will also be factored in to the eventual production of a detailed TOR in relation to the undertaking of the EA for the Project. It will also assist in the determination of any detailed study components and/or baseline studies that may be necessary.

7.2 Environmental Assessment Consultation

In addition to the consultation being undertaken as part of the development of the Scoping Document for the CS process, additional opportunities will be offered to the public to participate in the development of the EA and to offer input to the Project. A detailed consultation plan will be developed to clearly outline opportunities for the public to be involved in this process.

The public will have the opportunity to participate during the conduct of the Environmental Assessment, in particular, the identification of environmental and health and safety concerns related to the activities associated with the Project. This consultation effort will provide an opportunity for the public to engage experts in specific environmental fields to gain further information about the Project. It also provides an opportunity for the EA Team to gather local knowledge about the Project areas and the specific features of these areas. The EA Team will also proactively undertake consultation with other stakeholders, resource managers and First Nations to ensure that all relevant information is gathered for the EA.

The mechanisms for this additional consultation may include additional open house sessions, information programs, focus groups, workshops, Project dedicated phone numbers and websites, and meetings. Specific project information and notification of meetings and open houses, will be conveyed through advertisements in local and regional newspapers, radio and television.

7.3 Public Comment on this Scoping Document

In consideration of information contained in this document, the public is invited to provide its views and opinions on the following areas:

- The proposed scope of the project;
- The factors proposed to be considered in the assessment
- The proposed scope of those factors; and

- The ability of the Comprehensive Study to address issues relating to the project.

Persons wishing to submit comments may do so in writing to PWGSC. Comments must be received no later than March 9,2005. **Mailed comments** may be sent to the attention of:

Sydney Tar Ponds Feedback
Public Works and Government Services Canada
PO Box 1280, Station A, Sydney, NS B1P 6J9.

Email: tarponds@pwgsc.gc.ca

By Fax: 564-2597

Phone In Commentary: 1-902-564-2534 (8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday)

Public Registry: 292, Charlotte St., Sydney (Nova Scotia) B1P 1C7 (Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 am to 9:00 pm).

Open House Sessions

Open House	NSCC, Marconi Colllege, Multipurpose Room	1240 Grand Lake Road, Sydney NS	2005/02/14
Open House	St. Michael's Society Hall Polish Village	954 Victoria Road, Whitney Pier, NS	2005/02/15
Open House	Ashby Legion - Upstairs Hall	35 State Street, Sydney, NS	2005/02/16
Open House	St. George's Hall	Nepean Street, (Behind Church across from Holy Angels High School) Sydney, NS	2005/02/17

Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry (CEAR):

The CEAR lists details in relation to the CEAA Process, and provides contact information and a list of documents available through the public registry (see below). Registry information can be accessed at www.CEAA.gc.ca, clicking the "Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry" and finally by entering "Sydney Tar Ponds and Coke Ovens Remediation Project" in the appropriate field.

Public Registry/Storefront:

The Public Registry for the CS, which comprises the "hard copy" repository of documents related to the environmental assessment of the project, will be at the Store Front Office, 292 Charlotte Street, Sydney, Nova Scotia. B1P 1C7. The public registry will be accessible from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and from 8:30 AM to 9:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Computer equipment will be available to visitors to enable access to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry Project site and the Sydney Tar Ponds Agency website. Feedback forms will also be available at the Office and can be dropped off at this same location during these hours.

PWGSC will receive all public comments on the Draft Scoping Document and distribute them to Transport Canada, Environment Canada, the Agency, and expert federal authorities.